

NEWS RELEASE

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Holiday weekend park closures for The Woodlands Township

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (April 10, 2020) – The Woodlands Township urges all residents and visitors to continue to do their part to slow the spread of COVID-19 and reminds that all Township parks are closed to the public until further notice, including over the holiday weekend.

"This is an unprecedented time, and we urge Township residents and visitors to abide by the closures for their own safety and the safety of our area," said Township Chairman Gordy Bunch. "We understand the importance of Easter Sunday to many of our families in The Woodlands and that it is a time for religious and family gatherings, but we must all be especially vigilant in practicing social distancing and not congregating in public areas. We cannot let our guard down in this endeavor."

On March 16, 2020, the Township Board of Directors ordered the closure of Township parks and the placement of signage at all parks to warn of the health risks that may be associated with the use of Township park facilities. The State of Texas has closed all state parks and Harris County has closed all county parks. State and national officials have warned that we are entering a critical period in the spread of the disease and must do this to help slow the spread.

Chairman Bunch wants to dispel a rumor going around in social media, primarily through teenagers stating there are "Safe Corona Free Social Circles."

"This is absolutely false and we urge residents to abide by CDC guidelines during this crisis," said Chairman Bunch. "It's ok for household members to be together at a park, but not to use playground equipment, basketball or tennis courts, skate parks, and most importantly, keep social distancing from non household members. We are gaining assurance by the data that shows that social distancing is having a positive effect on the spread of the disease, and the sooner we can get through this, the faster we can attempt to return to normal and get our economy running again. I thank you all for the part you are doing to help keep us all safe."

Watch Chairman Bunch discuss park closures and social distancing in this video.

More information about COVID-19 and local resources can be found at www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov/covid19.





Photo: Township Chairman Gordy Bunch address park safety concerns in this <u>Facebook video</u>.